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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, APRIL 25, 2002

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

Ex Parte: Establishment of a
Collaborative Committee to
Investigate Market Opening
Measures

CASE NO. PUC-2000-00026

FINAL ORDER

In an Order issued March 2, 2000, the State Corporation

Commission ("Commission") established a Collaborative Committee

to consider and recommend specific local telecommunications

market opening measures. The Commission directed Verizon

Virginia Inc. ("Verizon Virginia") and Verizon South Inc.

("Verizon South") to participate fully in the Collaborative

Committee and empowered the Director of the Division of

Communications ("Director") to convene and manage the

Collaborative Committee.

Effective April 9, 2002, the new Case Management System requires that the case number format for all Commission orders change from, <u>e.g.</u>, PUE010663 to the following: PUE-2001-00663.

¹ Adopted as a result of the Commission's approval of the merger of Bell Atlantic Corporation and GTE Corporation in Case No. PUC-2000-00100.

The Collaborative Committee has succeeded in reaching industry consensus on several important and complex matters to date and has made significant progress in accomplishing its original tasks. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this docket may now be closed. However, the Commission believes the Collaborative Committee has proven to be a useful regulatory tool and should be continued under the direction of the Director as a vehicle for addressing other telecommunications industry concerns, as needed. The Director is, therefore, delegated continued full authority to manage current and future work efforts of the Collaborative Committee. We encourage Verizon Virginia, Verizon South, and other interested parties to continue their participation in the Collaborative Committee.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) The Director of the Division of Communications is delegated continued authority to oversee the current and future

 $^{^2}$ The Commission is aware that the Collaborative Committee has addressed both performance standards and a remedy plan for Verizon Virginia and has begun addressing both of those for Verizon South, as required by the Commission's March 2, 2000, Order.

³ The Commission required the ongoing use of the Collaborative Committee in considering future changes to Verizon Virginia's performance standards in its January 4, 2002, Order in Case No. PUC-2001-00206. In addition, this finding is consistent with recommendations to develop alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, as contained in both the internal and Legislative studies of the Commission undertaken in 2000-01. In an Order dated October 22, 2001, in Case No. PUC-2001-00100, the Commission adopted Rules for an Alternative Dispute Resolution Process for telecommunications carriers.

work of the Collaborative Committee and to direct its work effort as provided above.

(2) There being nothing further to come before the Commission, this case is closed.